

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66614
DRAFTED BY: AF/E:GGAY
APPROVED BY: S/S:PKJOHNSON
AF/E:WBCOOTE
AF:JJBLAKE

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R 122116Z FEB 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO USCINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 032311

EXDIS MIL ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT NAIROBI 741 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ADDIS ABABA
DAR ES SALAAM LONDON MOGADISCIO DTD 27 JAN

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S E C R E T NAIROBI 0741

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECT TEXT PARA 2.)

E.O. 11652: XGDS1
TAGS: MARR, MASS, PFOR, KE, US
SUBJECT: KENYAN REQUESTS FOR U.S. MILITARY TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE
AND U.S. NAVY PORT VISITS

REF: (A) NAIROBI 199, JANUARY 8, 1975
(B) NAIROBI 10265, DECEMBER 10, 1974
(C) NAIROBI 10618, DECEMBER 20, 1974

1. WHILE I RECOGNIZE THAT POLICY PROBLEMS POSED FOR USG BY
RECENT KENYAN REQUESTS FOR U.S. MILITARY TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE
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REPORTED REFTELS CANNOT BE RESOLVED OVERNIGHT, I WOULD HOPE

THAT WE COULD GIVE GOK POSITIVE RESPONSE THIS WEEK ON AT LEAST PART OF REQUESTED MILITARY PACKAGE. THIS GESTURE WOULD INDICATE TO GOK THAT WE ARE INDEED SYMPATHETIC TO KENYAN SECURITY CONCERNS AND WOULD BE PARTICULARLY TIMELY ON EVE OF MOMBASA

VISIT NEXT WEEK (BEGINNING FEBRUARY 5) OF USS ENTERPRISE AND ACCOMPANYING SHIPS.

2. DESPITE FACT THAT ENTERPRISE VISIT WILL PROBABLY GENERATE SOME CRITICISM OF GOK BY ITS NEIGHBORS WHO OPPOSE U.S. NAVY PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN (PARTICULARLY TANZANIA), GOK HAS PROCESSED OUR REQUESTS FOR ENTERPRISE PORT AND AIRCRAFT CLEARANCES EXPEDITIOUSLY AND WITHOUT ANY COMPLAINTS OR SPECIAL CONDITIONS. IN FACT, BECAUSE ENTERPRISE IS NUCLEAR POWERED, VISIT REQUIRED PERSONAL APPROVAL OF PRESIDENT KENYATTA WHICH WAS PROMPTLY GIVEN.

3. IN SUM, I THINK IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO OUR FUTURE RELATIONS WITH KENYA, PARTICULARLY INsofar AS CONTINUED U.S. NAVY ACCESS TO PORT OF MOMBASA IS COVCERNED, TO MAKE GESTURE OF SUPPORT FOR KENYAN SECURITY NEEDS AT THIS TIME. ACCORDINGLY, I WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING -- IF AT ALL POSSIBLE -- INSTRUCTIONS BY JANUARY 31 AUTHORIZING ME TO OFFER DOD VIP TOURS TO SENIOR KENYAN MILITARY OFFICERS MENTIONED REF A AND/OR TO ADVISE GOK THAT THEIR REQUEST FOR MILITARY TRAINING PER REF B HAS BEEN APPROVED. WHILE I WOULD ALSO LIKE EARLY AND FAVORABLE USG ACTION ON REF C REQUEST FO ARMS ASSISTANCE, I REALIZE THAT LATTER REQUEST RAISES DIFFICULT POLICY AND LEGAL QUESTIONS WHICH MAY REQUIRE MORE TIME TO SORT OUT.

MARSHALL UNQTE INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY TRAINING, MILITARY VISITS, USS ENTERPRISE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE032311
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/E:GGAY
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750052-0669
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750249/aaaabrpstel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 NAIROBI 199, 75 JANUARY 8, 75 1975
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KENYAN REQUESTS FOR U.S. MILITARY TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE AND U.S. NAVY PORT VISITS
TAGS: MARR, MASS, PFOR, MPOL, KE, US
To: USCINCEUR
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006